



RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION ON 20th ANNIVERSARY OF VOA TIBETAN SERVICE March 11, 2011

WHEREAS, the Voice of America began broadcasting in the Tibetan language on March 25, 1991 to provide accurate, balanced and comprehensive news and information to the people of Tibet;

WHEREAS, the VOA Tibetan Service operates a multimedia broadcast service providing essential news that is not otherwise available to the people of Tibet;

WHEREAS, the Dalai Lama has said that the, “VOA Tibetan Service performs an essential job for the people of Tibet to broadcast truth honestly,” and that, “Tibetans call VOA broadcasts their medicine for ‘depression and exhaustion’ and on days that they don’t get to hear it, they say they’ve missed their vital medicine;”

WHEREAS, Freedom House describes the People’s Republic of China’s (PRC) control of Tibet as ‘highly repressive’, and the latest Congressional-Executive Commission on China reported that, “As a result of Chinese government and Party policy and implementation, and official campaigns to ‘educate’ Tibetans ...the level of repression of Tibetans’ freedoms of speech, religion, assembly, and association increased further;”

WHEREAS, the PRC continues to jam the broadcasts of VOA Tibetan, as well as intimidate reporters both inside and outside of China who attempt to gather information about Tibet, all in an effort to inhibit the free flow of information to the region; and

WHEREAS, VOA Tibetan’s radio, web, and television satellite broadcasts are as vital to the people of Tibet today as when the Service’s first daily 15-minute shortwave broadcast debuted to the Tibetan plateau 20 years ago;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Broadcasting Board of Governors that we celebrate and commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Voice of America’s Tibetan Service.

Be it further resolved that the Board commends and congratulates both the current and former members of VOA’s Tibetan Service for their dedication in serving the Tibetan community, and in implementing U.S. foreign policy goals through the open communication of information and ideas in the Tibetan language.

Walter Isaacson
Chairman
Broadcasting Board of Governors

DATE: March 11, 2011